

REMARKS

Claims 32, 34-36, 38, and 40-62 are pending. Claim 56 has been amended.

The allowance of claims 32, 34-36, 38, 40-55, and 59-62 is gratefully acknowledged.

The current Action does not mention the objections to the drawings that are stated in the previous Action and discussed in the previous Amendment. Accordingly, it has been assumed that the previous Action's objections have been withdrawn.

The Action states that claims 56-58 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) for obviousness over a combination of U.S. Patents No. 6,806,846 to West ("West") and No. 6,285,337 to West et al. ("West et al."), but states that claims 57 and 58 would be allowable if suitably re-written.

The rejections have been rendered moot by this Amendment, which has amended claim 56 to recite that "at least one first metal layer and at least one second metal layer are patterned". Nothing like such an arrangement is disclosed or suggested in West or West et al.

FIG. 2 of West shows a structure with a pattern on one side of a dielectric layer and with no pattern, i.e., a metal plane, on the other side. According to West, col. 6, ll. 28-30, "In the EMXT structure 200 of FIG. 2, a thin dielectric substrate is metallized completely on one side 202 and has stripes 203 of metal or other conducting material separated by narrow gaps 204 on the other side".

West et al. also discloses only that one side of its structure is a metal ground plane 104, 204. See, e.g., West et al., col. 2, ll. 33-34, referring to what is known in the art; and col. 3, ll. 14-19, and col. 4, ll. 58-60, referring to FIGs. 2 and 5 that show a conformal antenna ground plane. In West et al., reference numeral 303 denotes radiation elements. See, e.g., col. 4, ll. 43-49.

Thus, neither West nor West et al. discloses or even suggests that both layers are patterned as claimed, and even if West and West et al. are combined as suggested in the Action, the combination fails to teach or suggest at least the feature of two patterned metal layers, as well as for example the feature that the radiators of the first and the second metal layers are differently arranged.

As a result of this Amendment, it is believed this application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions, the undersigned attorney may be telephoned at the number given below.

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